

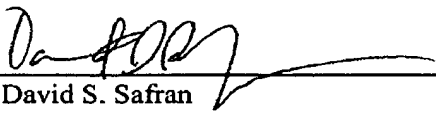
REMARKS

In response to the election of species requirement contained in the Office Action mailed May 4, 2005, applicant hereby elects Group 1, Fig. 1 for examination.

While the Examiner has indicated the view that no generic claims have been presented, applicant submits that claims are present that encompass all three embodiments. In this regard, it is pointed out that the difference between the specie of Fig. 1 and those of Figs. 6 and 7 is that, in the Fig. 1 specie, a single inlet is provided for the introduction of a pre-prepared mixture of gases while in the species Figs. 6 and 7, each of the gases is introduced via a separate inlet and they mixed at the front of the capillary (see, paragraph [0092] on page 18). Thus, claims 1-5, 9, 16, and 17 encompass all three species while newly presented claims 21-24 are directed to the elected embodiment.

In view of this election, a prompt action on the merits of claims 1-5, 9, 16, 17 and 21-24 is hereby requested. Furthermore, should the claims which encompass the non-elected species be allowed, rejoinder of the non-elected species is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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